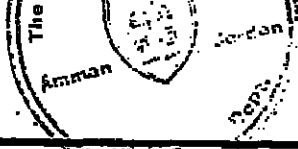


Jordan Times

The University of An Independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز مؤسسة الصحافة العربية



I killed in Sidon crossfire

BEIRUT (R) — One Lebanese civilian was killed and four people including an Israeli soldier were wounded Friday during a clash between an Israeli patrol and guerrillas who ambushed it in southern Lebanon, state-run Beirut Radio said. Armed men positioned inside the market town of Nabatiyeh threw a hand grenade and opened fire on the Israeli troops as they passed through the town centre, the radio reported. It said the Israelis fired back and in the exchange the Israeli soldier and four Lebanese bystanders were wounded. One of the Lebanese later died of his wounds. Israeli forces sealed off Nabatiyeh for two hours and sent helicopters to fly low over the town. Shops and schools closed for the rest of the day, the radio said.

Israelis tighten S. Lebanon security, page 2

Turkish-Cypriot assembly dissolved

NICOSIA (R) — The Turkish-Cypriot parliament voted Friday to dissolve itself and form a constituent assembly to draw up a new constitution for the Turkish-Cypriot republic declared independent on northern Cyprus last month. The vote by the 40-seat assembly, the Turkish sector's elected legislature since the island was divided by the invasion of Turkish troops in 1974, endorsed the plans of the self-proclaimed state's president, Rauf Denktaş. But it was carried in the face of strong opposition from two leftist parties who accused Mr. Denktaş of staging a coup. Twenty-four parliamentary members voted for, 16 against the resolution. It is due to meet next Tuesday to choose a new government to serve under Mr. Denktaş and to start drawing up a new constitution. The new republic has been condemned internationally and only Turkey has recognised it.

Related story on page 2

Volume 8 Number 2429

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Price: Jordan 100 mls; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

King cables good wishes to UAE

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of good wishes Thursday to United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan on the occasion of the anniversary of the establishment of the UAE. In his cable, the King wished Sheikh Zayed continued success in the leadership of his country to achieve further progress and prosperity and to achieve the interests of the Arab Nation, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

Hungarian foreign minister in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Verkovanyi arrived in Amman via Ramtha Friday on a three-day official visit to Jordan, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. Dr. Verkovanyi told Petra that the visit, upon an invitation by Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, aims at promoting bilateral relations and expanding co-operation between the countries, in addition to holding consultations with Jordanian officials on issues of mutual interest, the Middle East situation in particular.

Tal returns after UNESCO meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Education Said Al Tal returned home Friday after presiding over the 22nd conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), which concluded its sessions in Paris last Saturday. Dr. Tal told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the conference achieved great success and tackled issues of great intellectual significance in addition to organisational and financial issues. Co-ordination between UNESCO programmes and member states' national programmes, the organisation's role in improving women's position in society and the linking of education to labour were among issues decided upon by the conference, Dr. Tal said.

French soldier killed in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — A French soldier of the multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon was killed by a sniper in south Beirut early Thursday, a French military spokesman said. He was the 7th French soldier killed in Lebanon since the multinational force arrived in the summer of 1982. A suicide bomber killed 58 French troops on Oct. 23 by crashing a truck packed with explosives into a military headquarters here.

5 arrested in Jerusalem clash

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Police said Thursday they arrested three Arabs and two Israelis after fist fights broke out in Jerusalem's Old City between members of the two communities. Police said a dispute developed between an Israeli seminary student and an Arab. The Israeli called other students for help and the Arab called for help from friends. A score of fights broke out and a number of shopfronts were smashed. Two Arabs were taken to hospital for treatment.

Gemayel continues high-level Washington talks Lebanon seeks U.S. military equipment

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel Friday had talks with U.S. Deputy Defence Secretary Paul Thayer on equipment that the Lebanese army needs to extend the area of the country under its control.

Mr. Gemayel, in his second day of a Washington visit, is being urged by Washington officials to assert his government's authority over a wider area of the country as a step towards securing the withdrawal of foreign forces.

Mr. Gemayel, who conferred with President Reagan on Thursday, was having lunch Friday with Secretary of State George Shultz and meeting Mr. Reagan's special Middle East envoy, Donald Rumsfeld.

His talks have focused on ways to secure the withdrawal of foreign troops and Mr. Gemayel has called for implementing the May 17 agreement in which Israel agreed to pull out of Lebanon. Implementation has been stalled by Syria's refusal to withdraw.

After his meeting with Mr. Gemayel Thursday, Mr. Reagan reaffirmed U.S. support for the May 17 Israel-Lebanon agreement which the United States helped negotiate. Syria has denounced the agreement and its position is that Israel must withdraw without achieving any gains from its June 1982 invasion.

Fahd 'reassures' U.S.

Earlier Thursday, the Saudi ambassador in Washington, Prince Bandar bin Sultan, delivered a message from King Fahd to President Reagan, which U.S. officials said, reaffirmed Syria's commitment to withdrawal but not under the terms of May 17 agreement.

Prince Bandar told reporters that Syria was committed to withdrawal but "something has to happen" to the May agreement. "The Syrians are committed to go," he said. "The problem is that Israel won't go." He refused to answer questions about the timing of any Syrian withdrawal.

King Fahd has "assured" President Reagan that Syria will withdraw its troops from Lebanon if the United States can persuade Israel to "schedule" a complete withdrawal as well, the Washington Times reported Thursday. In the letter delivered to the White House by Prince Bandar, King Fahd said he could make this assurance "for the first time," according to the Post.

The letter warned that the government of Lebanese President

Gemayel is perilously fragile, and Lebanon needs a diplomatic success either during Mr. Gemayel's visit here, which began Wednesday, or immediately following it if Mr. Gemayel is to maintain power, the Post said.

King Fahd urged that the political portions of the May 17 agreement on Israeli withdrawal be put aside temporarily, but that the provisions for the security of Israel's northern borders be implemented immediately, the Post added.

'Israel — a liability'

Referring to the new U.S.-Israel co-operation plans announced Wednesday by Mr. Reagan and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Prince Bandar said:

"We strongly believe that Israel is a strategic liability to the United States, not a strategic asset. Their behaviour in the past has been improved by good-will efforts by the United States."

Clovis Makoud, the Arab League representative here, said that although Arabs "have always been able to live with a U.S. tilt towards Israel," the formation of "a U.S.-Israel strategic axis in the wake of Mr. Shamir's visit is such a qualitative change that will jolt the Arabs into a painful reassessment of Arab-U.S. relations, a definite lowering of expectations and a confirmed perception that the U.S. can no longer be a mediator or a broker."

New U.S.-Israel group will counter Soviet role in Mideast, says Shamir

TEL AVIV (R) — On the first steps of the newly created U.S.-Israel political-military group will be to counter "Soviet involvement" in the Middle East, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Friday.

Speaking to reporters on his return from the United States, Mr. Shamir said creation of the joint group was one of the most significant achievements of his meetings with President Reagan and other U.S. leaders earlier this week.

"Close co-operation with the U.S. has always been and remains a cornerstone of Israeli political and military policies," he said. "Creation of the joint group brings the two countries closer and is a major development in relations between us."

The group will meet next month and "one of its immediate goals will be to find ways to counter growing Soviet involvement in our region, mainly through its surrogate in the Middle East — Syria," he said.

The group will also "seek ways to stabilise the situation in Lebanon chiefly by getting the Syrians to agree to leave, as Israel has already agreed to do," Mr. Shamir said.

The prime minister again called on Jordan and Palestinians to start peace talks to find a solution to the Middle East crisis, saying the

"split and fighting within the terrorist Palestinian gangs should have convinced them to abandon violence."

Mr. Shamir left Washington Wednesday warning that, if Lebanon was interested in independence, it should not seek to change a word of Israel's agreement to withdraw its troops from its soil.

Washington has backed the accord, which Secretary of State George Shultz helped prepare. U.S. officials refused to give details of the administration's strategy for overcoming Syria's refusal to pull out its 40,000 troops from Lebanon.

Israel said it will not withdraw unless Syria does. Mr. Shamir was speaking at a National Press Club lunch before flying to New York at the end of the three-day official visit.

"Agreements by countries are not signed to be cancelled and to be changed," Mr. Shamir said of the May accord.

"If Lebanon and the Lebanese people are interested to have a withdrawal of all foreign forces, if they are interested to have a free Lebanon, they will always support this agreement and they will not change a word of it," Mr. Shamir said.

Vance thinks U.S.-Israeli pact could be harmful, page 2

Junblatt vows to avenge murder of judge

BEIRUT (R) — Druze chieftain Walid Junblatt vowed Friday his minority community would strike back at killers like the lone gunman who murdered a leading Druze judge Thursday.

In an elegy read on his behalf at the funeral of Shihk Halim Takieddin, the senior Druze cleric in Beirut, Mr. Junblatt said: "I warn that our arm is long and can strike everywhere."

Thousands of Druze and Muslims attended the ceremony in central Beirut amid strict security apparently aimed at preventing outbreaks of sectarian violence.

Shops, banks and offices in west Beirut closed for the day in mourning for the 61-year-old sheikh, shot dead in his living room by a single bullet from a silenced pistol.

Mr. Junblatt, who left Beirut a year ago after a narrow escape from a car bomb, told the mourners that the killing was part of the battle between the Druze and "fascism. Lebanese reaction and those who want to make to Lebanon a sectarian state."

He was referring to the predominantly Christian right-wing forces who fought the Druze in last September's war for the Shouf and Aley areas southeast of the Lebanese capital.

"Now they are trying to corner us in Beirut," he said. But rightists — including Pierre Gemayel, founder of the right-wing Falangist Party and father of President Amin Gemayel — joined Muslims in condemning the assassination.

State-run Beirut Radio said first reports suggested the killer, a man in his mid-20s, was a relative of Shihk Takieddin. Police were still investigating the crime, it added.

President Gemayel, in Washington for talks with President Reagan and other officials, called for stringent measures to arrest and punish the culprit, the radio said.

Fuad Salman, secretary general of the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), read Mr. Junblatt's speech and was interrupted by chants of allegiance to the Druze leader.

The killing followed a period of heavy artillery exchanges between PSP militiamen in the mountains and Lebanese army units in and around Beirut.

The shelling forced Beirut airport to close two days ago and a security committee set up to enforce a two-month-old ceasefire has so far failed to get it reopened.

U.S. embassy denies report

The U.S. embassy meanwhile denied a local press report that Americans had been ordered to leave Beirut.

"We have not advised American citizens to leave," said embassy spokesman Jon Stewart. He said the security situation here was under constant review, but no instructions had been issued to Americans.

Mr. Stewart said the embassy took the step of issuing a denial as the report had aroused fears, that the United States was about to abandon Lebanon.

Arafat demands U.N. protection for PLO fighters leaving Tripoli

TRIPOLI, Lebanon (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat is asking for United Nations guarantees for the safety of his men when they evacuate Tripoli by sea, but no longer insists on an Arab observer force, an Arafat spokesman said Friday.

He put the condition to former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami, elder statesman of this northern Lebanese port city, and is waiting for a reply, spokesman Ahmad Abdulrahman told Reuters.

Despite the peace efforts, shells crashed Friday morning into the port area, a stronghold of Arafat loyalists, as well as on the front line between the warring factions on the north-eastern edge of the city.

The bombardment lasted about half an hour, sending residents fleeing for shelter. Tripoli had

been relatively calm for a week after three weeks of intense fighting.

The spokesman said Mr. Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), was asking for U.N. ships to accompany any Palestinian fighters who left the city by sea under the Saudi-Syrian disengagement plan.

The spokesman said the Arafat forces needed U.N. guarantees because they were blocked by Israeli ships. He repeated charges that the Israeli navy had seized four ships sailing to the aid of Arafat forces in recent weeks.

He said Mr. Arafat had dropped his demand that an Arab force guarantee the disengagement plan — a demand that Mr. Karami has received coolly.

Mr. Karami said in Damascus Thursday he thought Lebanese gendarmes, perhaps reinforced by local armed factions, would be sufficient.

The spokesman said Mr. Arafat had also asked whether any of the fighters who normally live in two refugee camps near Tripoli or in

the eastern Bekaa Valley would be allowed to return to their homes.

The Syrian-backed Palestinian rebel forces, who have bottled up the Arafat loyalists in Tripoli, refuse to leave the nearby Baddawi and Nahr Al Barid refugee camps, which they overran last month.

In case Syria forbade the loyalists to return to their camps, Mr. Arafat had asked Syria and Saudi Arabia to help find Arab countries willing to accept the exiled fighters.

U.N. debate scheduled

At the United Nations, Friday, the Security Council scheduled private consultations on the situation in north Lebanon.

The closed-door session was summoned at the initiative of Council President Hans van der Stoep of the Netherlands. There was no indication whether it would be followed by a public meeting.

3 U.S. congressmen, NAAA officials arrive in Jordan on fact-finding mission

By Ara Voskian
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A delegation of U.S. congressmen and members of the National Association of Arab Americans (NAAA) board of directors arrived in Amman Friday for a week-long visit to Jordan. During their stay the delegation members are scheduled to make a one-day visit to the West Bank, after which they will return here.

The three congressmen, who are accompanied by their wives and members of their staff are: Republican Representative John Erlenborn from Illinois, Republican Representative Howard Nielson from Utah and Democrat Representative Nick Rahall from West Virginia.

The congressmen are also accompanied by NAAA President Robert Joseph and three other members of the NAAA board of directors, Miss Christina Hammond, Miss Maria McCrea and Miss Georgia Abraham.

The NAAA is a Washington-based Arab organisation whose main objective is to reach out to help the land of their forefathers, especially in the Middle East, by approaching the American public and lobbying their support by enlightening them on Israel's expansionist policies.

During its visit, the U.S. delegation will meet Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, Senate Speaker Ahmad Al Tarawneh, National Consultative Council (NCC) Speaker Suleiman Arar, Information Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Occupied Territories Affairs Minister Hassan Ibrahim as well as a number of other Jordanian officials.

They are also scheduled to visit the University of Jordan, the Royal Scientific Society, the Scheller Refugee Camp, the ancient city of Petra and the Jordan Valley.



Representative Nick Rahall



NAAA President Robert Joseph

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Militants promise to quit Nablus site

NABLUS, West Bank (Agencies) — About 30 militant Israelis who set up a protest camp in the occupied West Bank said Friday they would quit the site peacefully after Defence Minister Moshe Arens described their action as illegal.

The group had set up two large tents near Joseph's Tomb to demonstrate their determination to stay in Nablus, the largest West Bank town, after a clash with Palestinians in which a Jewish settler was wounded Monday.

They posted armed guards at the site and said they would remain until their demands for "greater security" were met by the Israeli army.

Defence Minister Arens told Israel Radio: "I understand that the settlers' move into the tomb area is illegal and the government expects them to move out."

A spokesman for the settlers later told state radio: "Although we object to Minister Arens' description of our action as illegal we shall leave peacefully as soon as asked."

"We still expect our demands for greater safety measures to be carried out by the Israeli forces in the area."

Meanwhile at Kalkiya, another West Bank town, Israeli bulldozers have razed Arab orchards along a main road in a new army drive to curb Palestinian attacks on Israeli cars.

Military authorities said about 300 trees were bulldozed because attackers in recent months had fired at Jewish settlers and thrown firebombs from the orchards.

Arab orchards destroyed

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Moscow to resume talks only if missiles withdrawn

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet newspaper Pravda Friday made clear new U.S. missiles would have to be withdrawn from Europe before Moscow would resume talks with the United States on limiting medium-range nuclear weapons.

Pravda ridiculed NATO leaders, and in particular West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, for suggesting Moscow might soon return to the Geneva talks, broken off last week, despite the arrival in West Europe of the first of 572 U.S. cruise and Pershing-2 missiles to be deployed.

"This, stripped of fine names, is a shameless deception," it said. The question of possible Soviet flexibility has been raised in the West over the past week because

of the wording used by President Yuri Andropov in a public statement and in letters to Mr. Kohl and other West European leaders.

Mr. Andropov said Moscow did not regard the breakdown as irreversible and would resume negotiations if NATO "showed readiness to return to the situation existing before the start of deployment."

Pravda Friday made clear Moscow expected more than just "readiness".

"To make possible the resumption of the talks... the NATO countries should restore the old state of things, when there were no missiles in Europe," it said.

"Nothing else was said and could be said either to Chancellor Helmut Kohl or anybody else," it added.

Mr. Kohl told a press conference on Monday the letter he had received from Mr. Andropov indicated Moscow was ready to review its decision to break off the Geneva talks.

Western diplomats said Pravda's article, released in advance Thursday night by the official news agency TASS, reflected anger in the Kremlin over the gloss Western leaders had been giving to Mr. Andropov's words.

Pravda said Western leaders had distorted Soviet intentions because public feeling was so strongly opposed to the deployment of the Pershing-2 and cruise missiles.

In a further sign that the Kremlin aims to keep up the pressure, the authorities Friday announced a press conference Monday on the issue by the chief of general staff, Nikolai Ogarkov.

News conferences by top-level Soviet leaders, particularly from the military, are rare, and until last September Gen. Ogarkov had never addressed Western reporters.

Diplomats said they expected Gen. Ogarkov's appearance would be aimed at reinforcing the gravity of retaliatory measures already announced by Mr. Andropov in response to the NATO weapons.

Soviet naval power alarms NATO; Trudant to review peace plan in two months, page 8

"To be in Jordan is like to be in Turkey..."

We heartily welcome President KENAN EVREN to Jordan

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MIDDLE EAST

Israeli troops tighten security in S. Lebanon

SIDON, South Lebanon (R) — The Israeli soldier shook his head in disbelief as a disconsolate Lebanese driver tried to explain how a Kalashnikov assault rifle happened to be hidden in his mini-bus.

Moments earlier the AK47 had fallen to the ground during the routine search of vehicles crossing the Awali line that divides central Lebanon from the Israeli-controlled south.

It was wrapped up among a pile of cellophane-wrapped, cordery trousers which the driver said he was delivering to a Sidon clothes shop.

Weapons smuggling is one of the reasons Israel cites for increasingly strict security measures that now effectively mean south Lebanon is cut off from the rest of the country for 14 hours a day.

From dusk to dawn the line is closed. Between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. vehicles and pedestrians can cross at only two points along the 113 kilometre line and the process can take hours.

The Awali line — named after the river that flows into the Mediterranean just north of Sidon — is, to some observers, increasingly taking on the appearance and atmosphere of a frontier.

Trucks and cars stretch back for kilometres on the northern side, waiting to be waved forward for searching by Arabic-speaking soldiers of Israel's border police. Every night drivers camp out by their lorries so they will be at the front of the queue when the line reopens next day.

Rows of taxis wait either side of the Awali bridge, the main crossing point, to pick up travellers who walk across.

Pedestrians show Lebanese-issued identity cards to the soldiers. "All we really want to know from the identity cards is whether they are Lebanese or Palestinian," said an Israeli army officer called Rafi.

Palestinians, who make up around 10 per cent of the 600,000-800,000 population of south Lebanon, are only allowed to cross the line with special permission.

Since Israel set free some 4,500

pro-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) prisoners from its Ansar detention camp a week ago it has "beefed up all aspects of our security systems," said Capt. Shael Segal, an army spokesman in Sidon. "We are on maximum-level alert."

About 3,000 of the detainees, freed in a prisoner exchange with the PLO, were dispersed in south Lebanon.

Driving through the villages, you see men wearing the blue-and-white track suits and gym shoes that were issued by the Red Cross before they were released from Ansar.

In an apparent show of solidarity with the PLO, the word "Ansar" has been spray-painted on some buildings.

"There has been a radicalisation of the atmosphere, less willingness to cooperate with us," said Capt. Segal.

The new Israeli security measures go beyond extra road checks, patrols and the thick earth ramps that now guard every army post.

The army says none of the freed Ansar prisoners have been re-arrested and it is too early to see whether their release will lead to a real deterioration in security.

Citrus growers who need to transport fruit north of the Awali line have been issued with permits which enable them to jump the long queues at the crossing points.

Other regular travellers can apply for the two-month permits but army officers said fewer than expected had asked for them, apparently because of anti-Israeli feeling.

In the early days of the Lebanon war last year, Israeli soldiers shopped and dined out in south Lebanon. "All that is out of bounds now. Serving in Lebanon has become both more boring and more dangerous," said a 22-year-old lieutenant.

'Iraq has not yet used Super-Etendard planes'

CAIRO (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was quoted Thursday night as saying Iraq had not yet used French Super-Etendard planes in the Gulf War with Iran.

In an interview with the Egyptian newspaper Al-Ahram, Mr. Hussein said his army could force an Iranian retreat in the war at a suitable time.

"We have not used the Super-Etendard planes in our recent attacks against Iranian naval positions... but they can seriously harm Iranian installations and interests in the Gulf," he said.

"Our armed forces are capable of forcing the Iranian army to retreat to new positions inside Iranian territory... we will do this when we find it suitable and public opinion in Iraq concedes that Iran is the aggressor," Mr. Hussein added.

There has been speculation that Iraq used the French jets, delivered in October, in missile attacks last month.

Mr. Hussein said he did not

think Iran would carry out threats to close the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf if Iraq used the jets.

He accused Syria and Libya of cooperating with Iran to make trouble among Iraqi Kurds in northern Iraq, and said both superpowers still supplied Iran with arms although both claimed to be neutral.

Meanwhile, Iraq came to a halt for five minutes Thursday in mourning for Iraqi prisoners of war Baghdad said were killed by Iran on the Gulf war front exactly two years ago.

President Saddam Hussein laid a wreath of flowers at the martyr's monument, newly completed at a cost of around \$120 million.

Families of the prisoners Iraq said the Iranians killed on December 1, 1981, each received a house or a flat, the sum of 10,000 Iraqi dinars (\$30,000), a car, exemption from government debts, and a pension, the Iraqi news agency said.

U.N. plans to estimate Iran-Iraq war damage

UNITED NATIONS (R) — United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar discussed with the Iranian delegate Thursday the proposed dispatch of a U.N. mission to assess damage done to civilian targets in the Gulf war, a spokesman said.

He said Mr. Perez de Cuellar discussed the same proposal with the Iraqi representative, but was not authorised to say how Iraqi ambassador Riyadh Al-Qaysi and Iranian ambassador Said

Rajaie-Khorassani reacted to the meetings which were both initiated by the U.N.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar was acting in response to last month's Security Council resolution, which called for a halt to the war and specified that legal conventions be observed and civilian targets avoided, the spokesman said.

He added Iran had written 20 letters since June when a U.N. mission to the area reported the war had caused heavy damage.

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Japanese shipowners confused

TOKYO (R) — Japanese shipowners were thrown into confusion Friday by conflicting reports on whether a ban on Japanese owned or crewed ships loading oil at Iran's Kharg Island in the Gulf was being maintained.

The Japanese shipping firm Shinwa Kaisha Ltd., said the Japan shipowners association and the Japan seamen's union which imposed the ban, had given permission for one of its tankers to load oil at the island once Iranian authorities gave the go-ahead.

But the shipowners association said the ban was being maintained although it was studying the situation in the Gulf to see if such a move was justified.

The ban was imposed last week after Iraqi forces sank two Greek ships in the Gulf near Iranian ports.

Shipping industry sources said the confusion appeared to be linked to Japan's delicate position as a trading partner of both sides in the Gulf war.

Any decision to drop the ban would be made as quickly as possible to lessen the possibility of Iraqi attacks on Japanese tankers, they said.

A spokesman for Shinwa Kaisha said the shipowners association and seamen's union had decided to let individual ships now waiting at Sirri or outside the Gulf, go to Kharg Island after assessing the security situation on a case-by-case basis.

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Greece says Britain should be go-between in Cypriot crisis

ATHENS (R) — Greece has indicated it had agreed with Nicosia to look to Britain as mediator over the Turkish-Cypriot declaration of independence in northern Cyprus.

An official statement said Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu would meet Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher here at the weekend to discuss possible London-Athens and London-Ankara talks on Cyprus.

The statement was the first indication of the action agreed between Mr. Papandreu and Cyprus President Spyros Kyprianou during talks here.

A row broke out between them at the weekend after Mr. Kyprianou made a statement that seemed to favour talks between Greece, Turkey and Britain — Cyprus' three guarantor powers — around the same table.

Mr. Papandreu had earlier rejected tripartite talks and said the only solution was for Britain to talk to each country.

Mr. Papandreu said Thursday: "Any misunderstanding that ex-

isted — and one did exist — has been solved. The Athens-Nicosia front is unbroken."

Mr. Kyprianou said he and Mr. Papandreu agreed on aims and tactics following the Nov. 15 declaration of independence of northern Cyprus by Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş.

Greek-Americans could force Washington to impose an arms embargo on Turkey if Ankara did not withdraw its support for the declaration of independence in northern Cyprus, the spiritual leader of the orthodox church in the Americas said Thursday.

Archbishop Iakovos made the comment when asked at a press conference what measures the Greek lobby would take in Congress following the declaration of an independent northern Cyprus by Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş.

In Nicosia Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş said Thursday he wanted more power for his office of president in the self-proclaimed Turkish Cypriot rep-

ublic, but opposition figures expressed deep concern about his plans.

In a statement issued in the Turkish sector of Nicosia, Mr. Denktaş said he planned to add 20 to 30 appointed members to the 40 elected members of the present parliament to make up a constituent assembly to draw up a new constitution.

He said the constituent assembly would meet on Dec. 6. "I have full confidence that the constituent assembly, in harmony and full cooperation, will prepare a realistic constitution," he said.

"I believe it will be very useful to entrust the president with new powers," he added. "The system we are planning to set up may be linked to the De Gaulle system of France."

But two leftist parties strongly oppose Mr. Denktaş's plans and are against turning the present parliament into a constituent assembly as Mr. Denktaş declared when independence was proclaimed on Nov. 15.

Former associate of Nasser calls for another revolution in Egypt

By Sami Razaz
Reuter

CAIRO — One of the "free officers" who ousted the Egyptian monarchy in 1952 has urged his surviving colleagues to re-enter politics to bring about "a revolution that changes the whole of Egypt."

Now an opposition party leader, Khaled Mohieddin's rallying call to the "old guard" revolutionary council of the late Gamal Abdel Nasser, made in a speech earlier last month, has met attacks and criticism from the press.

Political sources said the press attacks were a surprise, partly because President Hosni Mubarak has always spoken sympathetically about the 1952 revolution.

Some politicians said privately the criticism suggested jitters within Mr. Mubarak's ruling National Democratic Party ahead of general elections next April. But political sources said it was hard to see the old guard as a threat to Mr. Mubarak, since it commanded scant public backing.

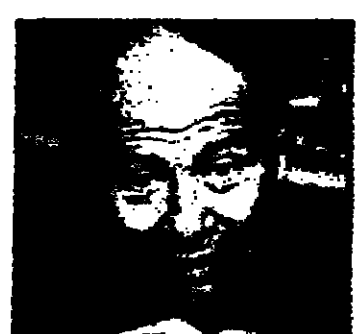
Among those to attack Mr. Mohieddin for urging the old guard to re-enter the political fray was the editor of the political weekly Al-Mussawwar who said the revolutionary council "long ago lost legitimacy" and had no right to impose "an alleged guardianship on the Egyptian people."

The army has forbidden the six to speak to reporters.

Several members of Israel's broadcasting authority have admitted that media coverage of the subject has been overdone.

Few survivors

Few of the "free officers" who removed King Farouk on July 24, 1952, survive today and remain in public life.



Khaled Mohieddin

The brothers Salah and Gamal Salem, members of the original 11-man revolution command council, have died.

Of those "July men" still active, most are involved in opposition politics, although a striking exception is Second Lieutenant Mohammed Abdel-Halim Abu Ghazala, mentioned in some memoirs as a junior adherent of the "free officers" in 1952. Now a Field Marshal, Abu Ghazala is Mr. Mubarak's defence minister and deputy premier.

Left-leaning Mohieddin disented from the revolutionary command council in the early years of the revolution.

He re-emerged to lead the small unionist progressive party when Anwar Sadat, who succeeded Mr. Nasser in 1970, allowed a measure of pluralistic democracy. The party comprises Nasserites, Marxists, nationalists and others including some less-known "free officers."

Mr. Mohieddin's recent speeches have taken the line that the 1952 revolution has not achieved its objective. He said 46 million Egyptians lived mostly in suf-

fering poverty 30 years after a revolution which pledged them a better life.

He would, he said, report to other survivors of the original revolutionary command council and invite them "to return to political life to shoulder their historical responsibilities."

One of these men, Kamal Hussein, was elected to the people's assembly as an independent during Mr. Sadat's rule but expelled after angering Mr. Sadat in a cable protesting about a crackdown on the opposition after 1977 food riots.

Political sources said Mr. Hussein might try to form a party or join one soon. He might enter the new Wafd, a revival of Egypt's oldest nationalist party now fighting a court battle for official recognition.

Another survivor

Another survivor of the council is Hussein El-Shafei, vice-president for a time under both Nasser and Sadat.

Besides Mr. Mohieddin's call for a new revolution, other opposition groups are trying to weld together a front, calling for a boycott of the April elections unless Mr. Mubarak reforms emergency legislation which they allege curbs their freedom.

In his recent speeches, Mr. Mubarak has conceded the country has "a huge heap of problems." But he says an ingrained fatalism, indolence and a birth rate that adds one million to the population every 10 months are chiefly to blame, and that no Egyptian government should be asked for overnight miracles.

6 returned Israeli prisoners of war in midst of raging controversy

TEL AVIV (R) — Six Israeli soldiers who returned home to a heroes' welcome after an exchange of prisoners with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) have become the centre of a bitter controversy.

Former Chief of Staff Rafael Eitan has accused them of shaming the army and suggested that a military inquiry might decide to put them on trial for negligence.

The six, who surrendered to the PLO without firing a shot during Israel's invasion of Lebanon 14 months ago, were freed last week in exchange for 4,600 Palestinian

and Lebanese prisoners.

Israeli television has come under sharp criticism for giving hours of coverage to jubilant parties celebrating the return of the prisoners and for broadcasting long, painful interviews with the parents of two of their companions still in captivity.

The Al Hamishmar newspaper, of the leftist opposition Mapam Party, commented: "We did not need the festival of prisoners, but we certainly don't need the excessive public lynching now taking place."

The prisoners' families held a

heated telephone exchange with Gen. Eitan over his comments.

One parent told the independent Maariv newspaper that the conversation ended with the former chief of staff slamming down the receiver.

The parents have also asked to meet Israeli President Chaim Herzog, who on Tuesday agreed with Gen. Eitan that the soldiers may have failed to observe usual army standards.

They said Gen. Eitan, while still chief of staff, had himself told them the soldiers would have been

killed if they had tried to resist the guerrillas.

"What were they supposed to do, act like big heroes?" one mother asked in a television interview. "Should they have returned in coffins instead?"

Northern commander Ori Orr has said the soldiers may have failed to act according to their military training, but had already been punished enough by their long imprisonment.

Opposition parliamentarians have complained that Israel set a dangerous precedent by freeing

67 prisoners convicted by Israeli courts of terrorism as part of the exchange.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has said Israel paid a very heavy price for the return of the six soldiers. But he said Jerusalem was still seeking an exchange agreement for other Israelis held by Palestinian rebels and Syria.

The army has forbidden the six to speak to reporters.

Several members of Israel's broadcasting authority have admitted that media coverage of the subject has been overdone.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Egypt, USSR to increase trade

CAIRO (R) — Egypt and the Soviet Union signed a new annual trade protocol Thursday aimed at boosting the value of their trade in 1984 to \$500 (\$730 million) from \$400 million (\$584 million). Egyptian exports to the Soviet Union include cotton, cotton cloth and fruit. Egyptian imports include spare parts, drugs and cement.

Sudan to set up expatriates' bank

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan has decided to set up an investment bank to deal with remittances from about 2.5 million Sudanese working in African and Arab countries as well as the United States and Europe, the official Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported Thursday. It quoted an official at Sudan's central bank as saying their investment bank, expected to be operational in June next year, would have a capital of \$20 million. Remittances from Sudanese working abroad total about \$300 million a year.

Qantas reports \$34.4 m loss

SYDNEY (R) — Australia's international airline Qantas Thursday reported an operating loss of \$34.4 million for the year ended last March 31, but said it was now profitable. The loss was a sharp turnaround from a profit of \$61.4 million in the previous year. The loss on airline operations was a record \$47.59 million, nearly double the previous year's loss of \$24.04 million.

OPEC proposes research centre

DOHA (R) — A six-day seminar on enhanced oil recovery ended here Thursday with a call for the establishment of a research centre to be attached to the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). The seminar recommended that research into enhanced oil recovery should be a basic part of the work of the proposed centre. The seminar also called for standardisation of measures and terminology used in petroleum operations.

Argentina receives fresh credit

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina Thursday received the first \$500 million portion of a new \$1.5 billion loan from its creditor banks to help ease its economic crisis, banking sources said.

China honours grain deal with U.S.

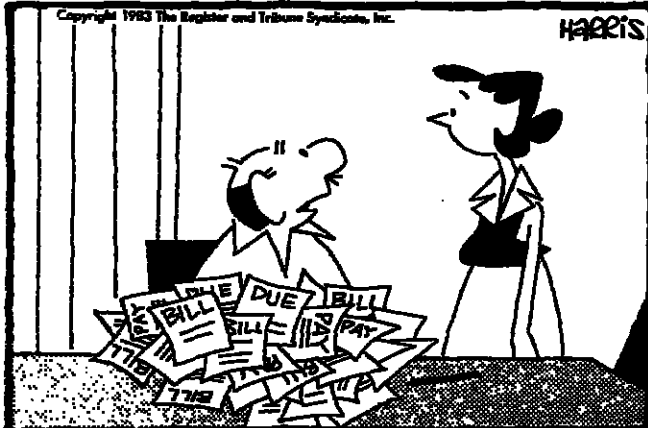
WASHINGTON (R) — China's decision to honour its long-term grain sales agreement with the United States also lifts the threat of disruption of talks on other bilateral issues, administration officials said Thursday. The Chinese embassy, Wednesday informed the State Department that Peking had decided to buy an extra two million million tonnes of U.S. grain this year, fulfilling the purchase terms of the agreement.

IFAD holds 'crucial' talks Tuesday

ROME (OPECNA) — The governing council of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) begins its annual session on Tuesday. According to IFAD officials, the "four-day session will be of great importance for the fund and its future", especially because the replenishment of its resources is the most crucial item on the agenda. By the end of the year, IFAD would have committed \$1.8 billion to projects and programmes aimed at fighting hunger and malnutrition through rural development in developing countries, officials said.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"I don't suppose there's some way we could make the sparrows pay rent on the birdhouse?"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

REBBI

KLAF

YOMFID

CINTAG

Print answer here: THE

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FLUKE CAMEO SAFARI DRAGON
Answer: Frankenstein was lonely until he discovered how to do this — MAKE FRIENDS

Turkish prices rise after elections

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkish retail prices have risen sharply since last month's general elections, triggering a press outcry on behalf of consumers and predictions that the official inflation rate will exceed 35 per cent this year.

The original 1983 official inflation target, calculated on the wholesale price index which excludes items such as rents, was 20 per cent.

But it had already reached 27.4 per cent by the end of October before increases in the past three weeks, which began with rises of around 17 per cent in petroleum products, forced on the government by the falling value of the Turkish lira.

Many analysts, including election winner and former economy chief Mr. Turgut Ozal, believe the true inflation figure to be as much as 15 per cent above the official figure. Mr. Ozal has pledged to cut inflation "whatever the price."

Since the oil price rises, prices of a wide range of consumer goods, from eggs to car tyres, have spiralled.

In one example of the spree, a refrigerator manufacturer advertised next month's prices on television, advising people to buy now and save up to 25,000 lira.

A kilogramme (2.2 pounds) of salty white goat's cheese, a staple for millions of Turks, has risen to 700 lira (\$2.80) from 550 lira (\$2.20) and eggs have risen from 17 lira (17 cents) each to 22 lira (19 cents).

The word "zam", meaning price rise, became the fear of consumers and the catch-word of newspaper headline writers.

Stories of increased prices pushed political developments to second place in the newspapers, which clamoured for controls and reported the reactions of dismayed consumers.

Most papers tend to blame manufacturers and retail traders for taking advantage of the month-long transition period between the elections and the new government of Mr. Ozal's conservative Motherland Party taking over.

Trade ministry and local authorities have started a campaign to check prices, but economists say the laws of economy are at work and are immune from state interference.

"If you push 147.8 billion lira (\$547.4 million) into the system in three weeks, prices will surely increase, this is a rule in economics," said Mr. Gungor Uras, a senior executive at the industrial holding company, Sabanci.

He said central bank data revealed that the money in circulation rose 25 per cent to 735.7 billion lira (\$2.7 million) on Nov. 4, just before the poll, from 587.9 billion lira (\$2.2 million) on Oct. 14.

Economists say this increase stemmed from excessive commercial bank withdrawals from the central bank to meet interest

payments on deposits.

As deposit interest rates are now below that of current inflation, the banks are faced with liquidity shortages because no fresh funds are available to them, they said.

Mr. Gungor Uras, also an associate professor of economics, said the extra money pumped into the system increased demand, which led the market to increase prices.

Mr. Nuh Kucuk, chairman of the Istanbul Chamber of Commerce, said negative deposit rates and expectations of price hikes after Mr. Ozal takes over next week fuelled the surge in demand.

He also said recent state build-ups of some firms and three banks had cost the state some 120 billion lira (\$444 million), adding to the price increases.

Business circles say some industrialists, expecting a tough programme by Mr. Ozal to restrict domestic demand to curb inflation, chose to increase their prices thinking they would be unable to do so next year.

Feldstein under attack by White House

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan's chief economic adviser, Mr. Martin Feldstein, has incurred the wrath of the White House for his outspoken views on budget deficits and some observers think his blunt talk might cost him his job.

Mr. Feldstein, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers (CEA), provoked a public scolding from the White House after speeches in which he said Mr. Reagan's budget-cutting efforts had brought most domestic spending back to the same share of the overall economy it held in the mid-1960s.

White House spokesman Mr. Larry Speakes criticised Mr. Feldstein sharply on Wednesday for his views and hinted that his job was at stake.

Taken alone, what Mr. Feldstein said about Mr. Reagan bring-

ing down spending on domestic programmes would please the president's conservative advisers.

But with the U.S. budget deficit running close to \$200 billion the implication of Mr. Feldstein's remarks was that Mr. Reagan's tax cuts had combined with record peace-time defence spending to produce such a high deficit.

Mr. Reagan has consistently argued that Congress was to blame for the budget deficits because it lacked the will to make necessary spending cuts in domestic programmes.

Mr. Speakes told the press:

"The important part of our programme is defence increase and tax reduction. I think that is well known, with the possible exception of the chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers."

Asked if Mr. Feldstein had been asked to resign, Mr. Speakes re-

sponded: "I don't think they're actually asking him to resign... I don't think they're going to ask him face-to-face."

Mr. Speakes said he was voicing publicly what the CEA chairman had already been told privately by senior White House officials over past months.

A spokesman for Mr. Feldstein, 44, said the economist had not been asked to resign and had no plans to leave his job before next September when he is scheduled to return to Harvard University. He was a professor there before joining the government in September 1982.

Mr. Feldstein also issued a statement saying he "completely supports" the president's economic programme.

Mr. Feldstein has called for higher taxes or spending cuts to offset federal budget deficits, a stance Treasury Secretary Donald Regan opposes.

Mr. Feldstein said Mr. Reagan's economic programmes were "fair and balanced."

"I know a lot of you have heard press reports but I hope my remarks make it clear I support the president's programmes and that I plan to stay in Washington," he said.

The speech reiterated his previously stated views.

"I am convinced that the advantages of reducing the budget deficit outweigh the disadvantages of the proposed increase in tax rates," Mr. Feldstein told the tax foundation, a private business group.

This was his most explicit statement so far on the issue, which divides administration policymakers as they begin preparations for next year's budget.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed quietly mixed and at 1500 the F.T. index was down two points at 739.1.

There were no new factors affecting market sentiment but dealers said interest was again selective and small.

ICI met renewed U.S. demand and ended 14p higher at 642 despite profit-taking but Cable and Wireless fell 1p to 271 following the undersubscription at the tender for the sale of 100 million shares by the U.K. government.

Government bonds eased as much as 3/4 point following the easier trend in sterling and North American stocks closed mixed. Banks met some institutional demand and showed net gains ranging to 17p as in Barclays at 499.

Gold shares pared earlier gains following a reaction in the bullion price, set about \$3 down at \$400.75.

Chloride showed no change at 27p after interim results in line with market expectations. A.B. electronics firmed 8p to 920 after the award of a contract for printed circuits by an IBM subsidiary.

In a mixed insurance sector Eagle Star ended 11p higher at 699 awaiting a statement on Monday from Allianz Versicherungs A.G. on the bid situation.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.4575/85	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2427/30	Canadian dollars
	2.7015/25	West German marks
	3.0262/72	Dutch guilders
	2.1628/38	Swiss francs
	54.83/87	Belgian francs
	8.2160/90	French francs
	1636.00/1637.00	Italian lire
	232.67/77	Japanese yen
	7.9590/9640	Swedish crowns
	7.5100/5150	Norwegian crowns
	9.7550/7600	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	403.50/404.00	U.S. dollars

Peanuts

HI, MARCIE, HOW ARE YOU FEELING TODAY? I'VE BEEN READING THIS HERE MEDICAL BOOK... YOU WANNA KNOW WHAT WE DON'T HAVE?



WE DON'T HAVE GOUT, TENDINITIS, BROKEN LEGS OR ATRIAL FLUTTER...



NOW THESE ARE THE THINGS WE MIGHT HAVE... MARCIE? MARCIE, ARE YOU LISTENING?



SHE HUNG UP!



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Until noon, you need to further work out a course of action under which you can gain the outlets which are important to your development. You have considerable energy to handle any problems.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Meet those obligations you have where business people are concerned in the morning. Then get out to social events.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Reach a fine agreement with partners early in the day. Trying to please your mate in the evening is wise.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Get at the jobs ahead of you early and complete them so that later you have time to see persons you want to impress.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Get future recreational activities well arranged early in the day. Get right at the jobs awaiting your attention.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get tasks done at home, but don't take any risks or get into arguments there. Later enjoy the pleasure that most appeals to you.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Talk over your plans for the future with an associate in the morning. Later be at home with kind and have a delightful time.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get busy at collecting money owed to you. Pay pressing bills. Go to an expert if you are in need of advice.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You have many little personal tasks to handle in the morning, so do them quickly. Then concentrate on how to have a greater income.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Think over what it is you most want from the personal angle in the morning. Later go after such goals with alacrity.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Look to a good friend to give you a different, but workable angle so that you can gain a wish important to you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be sure to follow suggestions of one who is vital to your well-being in the morning. Gain personal desires.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Early study new plans you have in mind, but don't put them in operation until you have discussed them with bigwigs.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will devise a wise plan for the future and be able to make a big success of life. Be encouraging and give as fine a course of education as you can, slanting it toward business administration. Religion is a must early in life.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword by J. & P. Barrick

ACROSS

1 Bubbles

5 Hodgepodge

9 Ball of thread

13 Top

14 Old name for Rock of Gibraltar

15 Robust

16 Grill

18 Masters

19 Rocky hill

20 Org.

21 Plus

22 City on 51D

23 — dixit

25 Commemorative pillar

27 Meta —

28 Rage

31 Before long

32 Punctuation mark

33 Suffix for block

34 Dismiss peremptorily

38 Time of note

39 Garden item

40 Ethereal

41 Marshal under Napoleon

42 Circuits

43 Roof of a kind

45 Odious

46 Tire cleat

47 Blanched

50 Blacksnake

52 Indian title

55 Transmitters

58 O'Casey the writer

59 In agreement

60 Organic compound

61 Vetch

62 Fellow

63 Yield by treaty

DOWN

1 Firmly fixed

2 Eight, in Oviedo

3 Cupid

4 Mal de —

5 Strident

6 Actor Ray

7 Forte

8 That girl

9 Made a selection

10 Asian country

11 Sommer the actress

12 Cardinal point

14 — del Sol

17 Africans

18 Gambling room

24 Forward part

25 Spring

26 Wine variety

27 Instruments

28 Hindu ascetic

29 Like a lot

30 Resist

31 So be it!

32 Work with others

35 Broken-arm support

36 Mend

37 Police action

43 Cubic meter

44 Aqua —

45 Nemo's creator

46 Perfume

47 Co-worker: abbr.

48 NY stadium

49 Frost

51 English river

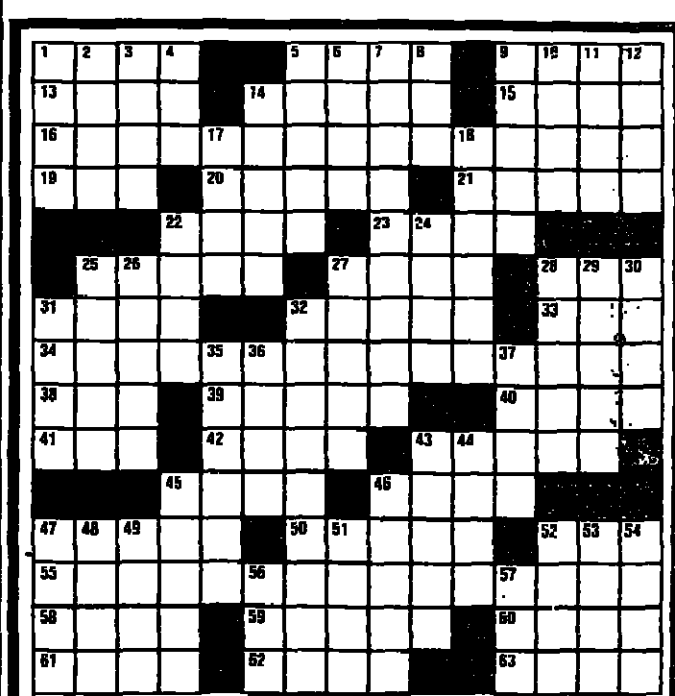
52 Trig function

53 Cross

54 Seagirt region

56 Joker

57 A mo.



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WORLD

Bonn prosecutor set to lay corruption charges

Lambsdorff loses political immunity

BONN (R) — The West German parliament formally lifted political immunity from Economics Minister Otto Lambsdorff Friday, clearing the way for corruption charges to be brought against him.

The list of charges, in which Mr. Lambsdorff is accused of accepting bribes on behalf of his Free Democratic Party (FDP) from the Flick industrial group, is expected to be handed over to him within the next few days.

He has said he will not decide on his future until he has studied the charges.

The lower house vote was taken by a show of hands, with no apparent objectors.

Bonn public prosecutor Johannes Wilhelm said his office would lay charges as soon as possible once the lower house approved the recommendation.

Mr. Lambsdorff would now

have to give details of charges that he and his predecessor Hans Friderichs, now a leading banker, took about 500,000 marks (\$200,000) in bribes from a giant company, Flick, in the 1970s, which both have repeatedly denied.

If Mr. Lambsdorff resigns, conservative Chancellor Helmut Kohl could face strong pressure to give more power in his three-party coalition to Bavarian Premier Franz Josef Strauss's right-wing Christian Social Union (CSU), a move Mr. Lambsdorff's Free Democrats (FDP) would resist.

Mr. Lambsdorff, who could be jailed for five years, says he is a

victim of "lynch-mob journalism" meaning press reports of the alleged scandal of payments by Flick into secret political party funds.

The political sensitivity of the case was underlined by a stormy debate in parliament Thursday when members voted for big changes in West Germany's vague law on party funding.

The new law boosts state subsidies and aims to make party transactions more visible.

FDP member Detlef Kleinert praised the legislation, saying it offered a clear ruling on party finances for the first time.

Left-wing Greens Party members opposed it, saying its wording could allow a retroactive amnesty on past financial wrongdoings. They said they would appeal to the constitutional court.

Opposition Social Democrats

SPD, backed it but said they would oppose any bid to introduce an amnesty.

The Flick affair centres on an economics ministry decision to allow tax immunity on a 1.9 billion mark (\$730 million) sale of Flick's shares in the Daimler-Benz Motor Company.

The prosecutor plans to call 114 witnesses and present hundreds of documents, firstly to an examining magistrate and then, if his case proves strong enough, at a trial.

The case appears to rest on a complex and delicate legal interpretation.

The prosecutor accepts that the ministry's tax immunity decision was justified on the grounds that the sale income was reinvested in the national interests over several years in domestic and U.S. firms.

However, announcing the charges on Tuesday, he said there was enough suspicion that Mr. Lam-

bsdorff and Friderichs "recognised the aim of the payments and showed themselves ready to allow them to influence their decisions."

Mr. Lambsdorff has complained that the prosecutor misled him over the nature of the charges, saying he was led to believe throughout the two-year investigation that he was suspected of the lesser crime of "accepting favours."

He said he heard only 10 minutes before the public announcement of the proceedings that he faced the charge of "accepting bribes."

He said he was denied consultations with the prosecutor's office to discuss his case.

Government spokesman Peter Boenisch said Mr. Lambsdorff was greeted warmly at a cabinet meeting and there was no pressure on him to resign.

Salvador death squads kill 'suspect' boatman

SAN SALVADOR (R) — A boatman who ferried reporters to the site of an alleged army massacre two weeks ago was found shot dead near his village, a day after six armed men dragged him from his home, his wife told reporters.

Santiago Vitelo Alay, 45-year-old father of seven, turned reporters across Suchitlan Lake to a village where they found 20 bodies, alleged by survivors to have been gunned down by troops belonging to El Salvador's elite U.S.-trained Atlacatl battalion.

The trip was widely reported here after the boatman was on his return trip and the six reporters were declared dead by local police.

But the journalists, the boatman, and a helper whom shore-clinging to the overturned hull.

Rosa Mariani Alay, 40, told Reuters, a death squad burst into her house at dawn on Tuesday and hauled her husband away.

She said she came to the capital to seek help in finding him. On her return Wednesday she was told her husband's body had been found on the outskirts of the village with four bullet wounds.

"They didn't say who they were, they just said we've come to take him away," she told Reuters, adding that two of the men were dressed in green but wore no badges.

A recent series of death squad murders in El Salvador has provoked the U.S. Congress to cut military aid requested by President Reagan by a quarter.

But Mr. Reagan has effectively killed legislation that would require the U.S. to certify El Salvador

was making progress on human rights before it could receive more aid.

U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering has criticised Salvadoran authorities for not taking steps against the death squads. "We are certain that these individuals are as well known to the security forces as they are to those of us who have been in the country only a short time," he said.

Three corpses were found on the outskirts of the capital Wednesday bore the hallmarks of death squad killings.

Police said they found two men shot through the head and in a separate incident, a young woman who had been strangled.

Human rights organisations have put death squad murders at more than 1,000 this year. But no precise figures are available as the murders are rarely investigated successfully.

In Washington, Secretary of State George Shultz said Thursday U.S. military aid might not have been granted to El Salvador next year but for President Reagan's veto of a bill making proven advances in human rights a condition of such aid.

Mr. Shultz said the next six-month certification, due in January, would have been difficult in the light of the existence of death squads and El Salvador's failure to prosecute for the murder in 1981 of four American churchwomen.

"If I had to do one by the middle of January, it would be difficult to sign," he told reporters.

U.K. printers agree to hold 'peace talks'

LONDON (R) — A print union and a newspaper owner agreed to peace talks Friday in a dispute that has led to clashes between pickets and police and put the union in conflict with the Conservative government's labour laws.

The government-funded Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS), said the two sides had agreed to talks at its London offices next Monday.

Earlier, the union, the National Graphical Association, undertook to suspend illegal picketing of a local give-away newspaper group that is at the heart of the dispute.

A lawyer for the union told a

court in Manchester, northern England, that it would engage in no unlawful picketing for seven days outside the group's printing works at nearby Warrington.

Courts have ordered the seizure of the union's £10 million (\$14.6 million) assets and fined it £150,000 (\$220,000) for refusing to abide by labour laws passed by the government.

Eddie Shah, 39, owner of the newspaper group, asked the Manchester Court Friday to consider imposing further fines under the laws, which limit picketing to employees directly involved in a dispute.

Trudeau to review plan for peace after 2 months

OTTAWA (R) — Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, on a one-man peace crusade around the world, has given himself "a couple of months" to decide if his disarmament campaign is working or not.

He considers the forthcoming NATO foreign ministers' meeting in Brussels to be the next crucial step and says he will be ready to fly to Moscow and Washington for talks with the superpowers from the middle of this month.

Mr. Trudeau, eager to rebuild bridges between East and West and tone down the superpowers' angry rhetoric, has in the past month flown to six West European capitals, Japan, China and the Commonwealth summit in Delhi to press for more dialogue.

In an interview published Thursday in the Toronto Star, Mr. Trudeau laid out his "peace timetable," telling the Canadian newspaper: "I suppose in a couple of months we will know if I can be

more useful continuing or not."

He has called for a conference of the five nuclear powers, a ban on "star wars" anti-satellite systems and a boost to the Vienna talks on cutting conventional forces.

He said that at the NATO meeting on Dec. 8, Canadian External Affairs Minister Allan Rock "will be cutting from his opposite numbers the answer to the question I put specifically in my communications to the 15 other NATO leaders when I wrote to them after my European trip."

Mr. Trudeau said he would be available from mid-December for talks with President Reagan or Soviet leader Yuri Andropov.

"I suppose it would be better for me to see the Soviets first so that I could catch up on my knowledge of their rather than see President Reagan yet once again," he said in the interview as he flew to the Gulf on a trade-hunting mission.

NASA press conference with shuttle crew flops

HOUSTON (R) — Experiments aboard the orbiting space shuttle Columbia focused on the stars Friday but back on earth, space officials were still blushing after communications problems all but scuttled a showcase press conference with the crew.

The six crew members, into the fourth day of their mission, started using an ultraviolet telescope aboard the European-built space lab, carried by Columbia, to study stars and galaxies while continuing observations of the earth's magnetic fields.

U.S. space agency officials said they were considering extending the shuttle's nine-day mission to give crew members more time to complete the 70 planned experiments packed into the billion-dollar spacecraft.

"The crew continues to be in very good spirits," said flight director John Cox.

But in Houston, space officials were still recovering from a press conference Thursday that was plagued with technical problems.

Mr. Cox said was caused by a cable incorrectly plugged into a telephone switching panel.

In the televised event the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) had planned to link reporters here and in Europe with the astronauts for a question-and-answer session.

But the session began late, did not last as long as planned and was plagued with technical troubles.

Instead of being able to put their questions directly to the astronauts, reporters wound up phoning them in to a NASA "communicator" who relayed their queries to space.

The first reporter to put a question had to repeat himself five times before it got through to a communications centre a few hundred metres away to be relayed to Columbia.

Reporters covering the mission from a European space agency facility in Cologne, West Germany, fared little better.

"Cologne calling space lab," Cologne calling space lab," an unidentified voice repeated over and over again without getting any response.

When the reporters finally got through the astronauts said space lab so far was living up to all its expectations.

Astronaut Owen Garriott said the crew had been concentrating on physiology experiments that had to be done early in the flight while they were adjusting to weightlessness.

Under the U.N. charter only the security council can order sanctions, and the assembly urged it to do so in a 10-page resolution that described South Africa's policies on Namibia as a serious threat to peace.

The United States, Britain, Canada, France and West Germany, members of a five-nation contact group involved in efforts to secure independence for Namibia, abstained on all the resolutions, following their usual practice.

Police seek 3 Heineken kidnappers

AMSTERDAM (R) — Dutch police said Thursday they had arrested another member of the gang who kidnapped brewery chief Freddie Heineken but were still searching for three men and about \$9 million in ransom.

A man named as R. Grifhorst, aged 34, was detained at Schiphol Airport after flying from Spain, bringing the number of arrests to 25, police said.

Police were seeking a further three Dutchmen two of whom were believed to be in Rotterdam, Spain, and one in the Netherlands. Spanish police were searching for the two in Spain.

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Der Spiegel fought it alone in 'Flick affair'

BONN (R) — West Germany's crusading news magazine Spiegel found itself virtually alone in a two-year campaign to expose the alleged involvement of politicians and parties in the so-called Flick affair.

The campaign by the anti-establishment Spiegel resulted this week in West German Economics Minister Otto Lambsdorff and four other people facing corruption charges over allegations of bribery by executives of the Flick industrial concern.

But the relative lack of interest in the affair shown by most of the media raised questions about editorial judgement in West Germany.

"It has been a very lonely campaign," Hans Werner Kitz, deputy head of Spiegel's domestic reporting unit, told Reuters.

While Spiegel produced periodic revelations on Flick, many based on documents apparently leaked from the office of the Bonn public prosecutor investigating the case, newspapers and radio and television stations seemed to be looking the other way.

"On Mondays after we appeared with our revelations most of the media just followed up with denials or completely ignored what we were reporting," Mr. Kitz said.

Count Lambsdorff complained of "lynch-mob journalism" after the prosecutor announced he would seek to lift his parliamentary immunity to enable charges of bribe-taking to be brought.

Yet many observers felt the politicians alleged to be involved had had a much easier ride from the media than they would have had in many other Western nations.

"A political scandal of this magnitude would have drawn the press like bees round a honeypot in a number of other countries," one Western diplomat commented. "But here there seems to have been almost a conspiracy of silence."

It's hard to see exactly why this is so. It's certainly not the libel laws which are much more liberal than in Britain, for example.

"I suspect most papers simply lack the financial resources to carry out investigative journalism on this scale and are content to stick to what they like best — pontificating and preaching to their readers."

Mr. Kitz, co-author of a book published last week on the Flick affair entitled "Flick — the Bought Republic", agreed and believed the structure of the press was partly to blame.

Mr. Kitz pointed to another factor he believed was at work: A large section of the media campaigned over a long period for the fall of Helmut Schmidt's left-liberal coalition.

Count Lambsdorff is generally seen as the prime force in the eventual decision of his Liberal Free Democrats (FDP) in September last year to switch coalition partners and join a centre-right government under Helmut Kohl.

It is now much too embarrassing for the papers to turn on the politician who engineered the change they were advocating. Mr. Kitz said.

Spiegel editor Erich Boehme defended his magazine against Count Lambsdorff's charge that his case had been prejudged in the media.

Mr. Boehme pointed out that towards the end of 1981 all the major parties drew up plans for an amnesty for tax offenders, a move which would have ruled out all the charges now being brought over the Flick affair.

Nicaragua cool to offer by U.S.-backed rebels

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaraguan officials, reacting to a U.S.-promoted peace offer by rightist rebels, said the left-wing leaders had no intention of negotiating with "traitors and murderers."

The officials commented privately on reports that five U.S.-backed insurgent groups had told U.S. special envoy Richard Stone they were willing to suspend their war against the ruling Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), if it moved towards elections and other Democratic change.

There was no formal official comment on the offer. According to a senior U.S. government official in Washington, it was conveyed in talks between Mr. Stone and insurgent leaders in Panama city, where deputy foreign ministers from nine Latin American countries were holding separate talks to bring peace to troubled Central America.

Sandinist officials, reflecting the mood of the leadership, said Nicaragua's position of refusing to negotiate with armed insurgents backed and directed by the United States had not changed.

According to the Washington account of the insurgents meeting with Mr. Stone, the rebels said they were seeking a political solution in Nicaragua and prepared to open negotiations with the Sandinists.

They were willing to suspend military operations against the left-wing leaders if the Sandinists took "credible" steps towards elections and democratic change.

Similar rebel gestures in the past have been rejected by Managua with the argument that guerrillas must not be permitted to shoot their way to power, an attitude which mirrors the U.S. government's stand on leftist guerrillas in El Salvador.

The Sandinists say they have already announced they would hold elections in 1985, and they deny charges by the U.S. and its insurgent allies that Nicaragua is a Marxist-Leninist dictatorship.

In the latest of a series of conciliatory moves towards their opponents, the Sandinists Thursday decreed a general amnesty for several hundred Miskito Indians accused of crimes against state security.

Officials said the amnesty covered more than 300 imprisoned Miskito Indians as well as Miskitos in Honduras, Costa Rica, and the remote mountains of northeastern Nicaragua.

Exiled leaders of the Miskitos, estimated at around 100,000, have long complained that the Sandinists pursue a policy of harassment and intimidation of the country's biggest ethnic minority.

Manila (R) — A Philippines Airlines probe told an inquiry commission probing the killing of opposition leader Benigno Aquino that it was possible soldiers shot the former senator.

Jose Oria, 24, a fuel loader, said that from the cockpit of a nearby aircraft he saw "four or five soldiers escorting Aquino down the tarmac and I did see who actually shot him."

Sen. Aquino was shot at Manila Airport on Aug. 21 moments after he arrived back in the Philippines from three years of self-exile in the United States.

Police said a notorious criminal wearing the uniform of airport maintenance crew shot him from a point-blank range. The alleged killer, Rolando Galman, was himself shot dead by security guards.

Mr. Oria said he saw the alleged gunman move towards Sen. Aquino to deliver what he thought was "a fist blow." He replied in the affirmative when chairman of the inquiry asked whether it was possible the soldiers shot Sen. Aquino.

Meanwhile, President Marcos, who is under political pressure to quit, warned his political opponents against stirring up violence and ordered police and security officers to arrest troublemakers.

Mr. Marcos was speaking to local security chiefs in Baguio city in northern Philippines during his first visit outside Manila since the murder of Sen. Aquino.

Demonstrations have been held almost daily in Manila since Sen. Aquino was killed moments after returning from self-exile in the United States. In the latest demonstration on Tuesday more than 20 people were arrested.

He was speaking on his return from New Delhi where he attended the Commonwealth summit meeting and held talks with

Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on problems of the island's minority Tamil community.

Under his proposals, the Tamils would abandon their demand for a separate state but the government would give them more powers through regional councils looking after their affairs in the northern and eastern provinces where most of them live.

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COLUMN

Flynt wants to see Andropov

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